



COUNCILMEMBER IKAIKA ANDERSON
HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 3
530 S. KING STREET, ROOM 202
HONOLULU, HI 96813
WWW.HONOLULU.GOV/COUNCILD3
MARCH 2019 UPDATE

Pali Highway Rockfall Mitigation

Chair, Council Committee on Planning

Vice Chair, Council Committee on Parks, Community & Intergovernmental Affairs

Member, Council Committees on Public Safety & Welfare; Zoning & Housing; Transportation; and Executive Matters & Legal Affairs



The rock fall and closure of Pali Highway continues to affect many Windward commuters. The Department of Transportation (DOT) has stated that repair and rock fall mitigation work on Pali Highway will continue until August.

DOT has significant concerns as a stress fracture was detected on the upper slope of the town bound side. That can only be eliminated by blasting off the top quarter of the mountain. To reduce this rock fall risk, DOT has devised a twofold plan: First, crews will install an attenuator system, or mesh barrier, between Old Pali Road and Pali Highway to serve as a catchment for material falling from the slope above. Second, after all of the debris are cleared from the town-bound tunnel entrance, DOT will install catchment fences and an 80-foot extension structure for the tunnel

to shield drivers from future landslides that may occur. According to DOT the topography of the Koolau Mountains funnels down rocks to the start of the town bound tunnel at Pali Highway and extending the tunnel structure another 80 feet will provide sufficient coverage to protect highway motorists. In addition, DOT has been removing loose rocks that have the potential of falling. The entire repair project will cost the State an expected \$15 million. DOT also reported that the electrical conduits and boxes near the tunnels were also damaged, so the tunnel lights will be out for the time being.

It has been extremely challenging for DOT workers as the Pali area is known for high winds, strong gusts and steep slopes.

(cont.)

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

Wednesday, Mar. 8

Full Council	9 am
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Tuesday, Mar. 25

Parks	9 am
Planning	10 ³⁰ am
Executive Matters	1pm

Wednesday, Mar. 27

Budget	9am
Public Works	1pm

Thursday, Mar. 28

Zoning and Housing	9 am
Public Safety	1 pm

Pali Highway Rockfall Mitigation

As work continues, the public is urged to avoid trails in the area, including Likeke Falls Hike between the Pali Lookout and the Koolau Golf Course. The Pali Lookout will also remain closed. For the next month, access to Pali Highway will continue as follows:

- Honolulu-bound morning contra-flow: Two lanes of Honolulu-bound traffic are available 5 to 9 a.m. Monday through Friday.
- Kailua/Kaneohe-bound lanes evening commute: Access to the Kailua/Kaneohe-bound lanes of Pali Highway are available 3 to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The DOT has decided to keep these access hours as they are now to provide crews with more time to make necessary repairs and crews will also be working concurrently on repaving project that was already underway for the Honolulu-bound lanes of Pali Highway between Castle Junction (at Kamehameha Highway) and Waokanaka Street. As a result, the planned work repaving the town-bound side of Pali Highway is also expected to be completed in August, ahead of previously proposed schedule. DOT reports that once the most urgent slope stabilization and debris removal is completed, a weekend access schedule will be implemented. For further updates or questions please contact DOT at 587-2150.

TheBus has announced that windward routes will utilize the Pali Highway contra-flow during morning and evening commutes. **Honolulu** bound Route 56/57/57A buses will operate normally and utilize Pali Hwy. from 5 a.m. to 9 a.m. Monday thru Friday (except holidays). At all other times Honolulu bound Route 56/57/57A buses will detour onto Likelike Hwy. after servicing stop #1277 at Aulua Rd. and will resume normal routing at Pali Hwy./Vineyard stop #1279. The Honolulu bound Route 56/57/57A buses will service along Kamehameha Hwy. from HPU to stop #1474 at Kamehameha Hwy./Koa Kahiko St. Passengers desiring Route 55/65 buses headed for Haleiwa or Kailua should transfer at Koa Kahiko St. **Windward** bound Route 56/57/57A buses will operate normally and utilize Pali Hwy. from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Monday thru Friday (except holidays). At all other times Route 56/57/57A windward bound buses will detour onto Likelike Hwy. after servicing the stop at Alakea/Hotel St. and will resume normal routing at Kalanianaʻole Hwy./Aulua Rd. stop # 1119. Temporary stops have been placed at Vineyard/Pali Hwy. and Vineyard/Nuuanu to service passengers from the Nuuanu area. It is also important to note that route 56/57/57A buses will service stops along Kamehameha Hwy. from Likelike Hwy. to Castle Junction. For more information please call TheBus Customer Service Office at 848-5555.

Satellite City Hall Safeway Kiosks

Hoping to minimize long lines at satellite city halls, the city recently unveiled the ability for residents to renew their vehicle registration at a self-service kiosk located in Safeway stores. The City NOW kiosks, which feature touch-screen monitors that are similar like a bank ATM machine and have the same level of security, are being rolled out as part of a one-year pilot program with California-based contractor Intellectual Technology Inc.

The kiosks are located at four Oahu Safeway locations: Kapahulu, Beretania, Waimalu and Kaneohe. Safeway was chosen as stores are open 24 hours a day

allowing residents to register vehicles 24 hours a day also. Cars, trucks, trailers and motorcycles can be renewed at the new kiosks within 45 days of expiration. To renew your vehicle registration, simply type your license plate number on the touch screen, or scan the bar code on your renewal postcard; then pay the fee by credit or debit card. The city will absorb the service and card fees of \$3. The kiosk will instantly print your receipt, vehicle registration and license plate tabs. Credit or debit cards are accepted, no cash.

Vehicles that have expired registrations are able to be registered using the City NOW kiosk. Just use the kiosk to pay the fine and then renew the registration. Residents will still have the option to renew their vehicle online, through the mail and in-person at satellite city halls by going to honolulu.gov/csd

Look All Ways Program

The City & County of Honolulu announced a seven-point package of common sense initiatives called, “Look All Ways,” designed to increase the safety of pedestrians, drivers and cyclists, while making all of us more aware of our surroundings. The goal of these new measures is to introduce common sense pedestrian safety protections throughout O’ahu.

“Look All Ways” Stencils

This effort will begin with stencil installations at 20 locations where pedestrian traffic incidents have occurred. For future installations, locations will be determined by incident occurrence and community need.

In-Road Pedestrian Safety Delineators

The Department of Facility Maintenance will install 100 in-road pedestrian safety delineators at locations where pedestrian traffic incidents have occurred, and where in-crosswalk installation makes sense.

Pedestrian Safety Flags

Two hundred high visibility pedestrian safety flags printed with a “Look All Ways” logo will be distributed across urban Honolulu. The priority will be at high traffic intersections, or intersections with recent incidents.

O’ahu Pedestrian Plan

The City and County is currently developing an O’ahu Pedestrian Plan, which will define the steps needed to make Honolulu a more walkable, livable, and healthy city. The O’ahu Pedestrian Plan will evaluate existing conditions and propose/prioritize pedestrian improvement projects and programs facilitating multimodal travel consistent with the city’s [Complete Streets Ordinance](#).

Proposed State Legislation

Two proposed bills have been submitted to the state Legislature. One bill focuses on not allowing right turns on red. The second bill discusses red light photo enforcement. While the city hopes both pieces of legislation are passed, the introduction of these measures also help raise awareness about pedestrian and cycling safety.

HPD DUI Enforcement

The Honolulu Police Department is continuing to perform DUI roadblocks, but is also committing to more roving DUI patrols, where officers use patrol cars to pull over suspected drunken or drugged drivers.

New “Look All Ways” PSA Campaign

The City and County of Honolulu will be creating a “Look All Ways” Public Service Announcement that will air on local television and radio.

Neighborhood Board Elections

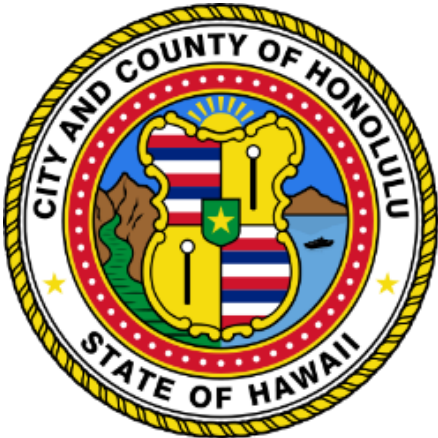
The city is encouraging all registered voters to vote in the Neighborhood Board elections starting on Friday, April 26 and running through Friday, May 17. A total of 557 candidates registered for the 2019 Neighborhood Board Elections which is a big improvement from the previous election cycle and the second highest number of registered candidates in the Neighborhood Commission Office’s history.

The Neighborhood Board System was established in 1973 by former Mayor Frank Fasi as a way to engage communities throughout O’ahu, and includes 437 volunteers who serve on 33 Neighborhood Boards. Moped registration and vehicle safety checks are just two examples of legislation that was spearheaded by neighborhood boards.

All registered voters will receive a passcode in the mail to access their ballot online at www2.honolulu.gov/nbe. However, voters residing in an uncontested race area will not receive a passcode. For those that do not have computer access, the voting sites will have computer access available: Kapolei Hale, Kapālama Hale Suite 160, KEY Project in Kahalu’u from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Mondays through Fridays), and any public library on O’ahu as part of the Hawai’i State Public Library System (see library hours).

If you want to request a paper ballot, you can contact the Neighborhood Commission Office at 768-3710. All paper ballots must be postmarked by Monday, May 13 and received by the Neighborhood Commission Office no later than Friday, May 24, 2019. For more information on the Neighborhood Board system, please call 768-3710 or visit www.honolulu.gov/nco.

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL



HOW TO REACH US:
530 S. KING STREET,
ROOM 202
HONOLULU, HI 96813

PH: 768-5003
FAX: 768-1235
Email: ianderson@honolulu.gov
* * *

DISTRICT 3
WEBSITE:

www.honolulu.gov/councild3
* * *

FACE BOOK:
www.facebook.com/IkaikaAnderson/
* * *

INSTAGRAM:
www.instagram.com/ikaikaanderson/

DISTRICT 3 STAFF

Andrew Malahoff
Senior Advisor

Francisco Figueiredo
Communications

Brandon Mitsuda
Legislative Aide

Paulyne Anakalea
Executive Secretary

Alan Kekoa Texeira
Community Director

Community Corner:

City Council Honors Afong Ohana

For the last ten years, the Afong Family – Hale, his wife Lehua and their son Jay have faithfully participated in the Waimanalo Christmas Parade. They have served as the Santa Claus float for four of those ten years and for the past three, they have generously agreed to be the emergency Santa Claus float in the event that the current Santa Claus is unable to participate or the float encounters a mechanical issue.

As we all know, you can't have a Christmas parade without a Santa Claus and last year just three days before the parade, the Afongs were called upon again to be Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus. They took up the challenge with a big smile and said, "No worries, we got this!" In just three days, Hale, Lehua, Jay and their band of elves, using their own money, created and decorated the Santa Claus float in time for the parade. By doing so, the Afong ohana helped to uphold the tradition of Santa Claus in the Waimanalo Christmas Parade and brought joy to the children of Waimanalo as they lined up along Kalaniana'ole Highway, eagerly awaiting Old Saint Nick with his holiday cheer and candy.



From its humble beginnings in 1996 with two semi-trucks with end dump trailers driving around the community passing out candy to the children, the Waimanalo Christmas parade was born. Today, the parade has over 50 entrants, various dignitaries and a route that stretches two and a half miles through the community starting at Kumuhau and Humuniki Street and ending at Waimanalo Beach Park.

With Alan Kekoa Texeira